

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01953 181349Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15
INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5779

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJ: REGIONALLY-FOCUSED SPEECHES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: STATE 176956

1. IN BARBADOS, GRENADA AND THE ASSOCIATED STATES OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN, U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES CAPTURE THE IMAGINATION OF WIDE SECTORS OF THE POPULATION. GENERALLY THIS AREA IS PROUD OF ITS BRITISH-BASED LEGACY OF REGARD FOR HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS. DEEPLY-ROOTED DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS MAINTAIN THEIR VIGOR. THESE COMMON TRADITIONS CONSTITUTE PROBABLY THE MOST ENDURING LINKS THE U.S. HAS WITH THIS AREA.

2. EXTREME MARXIST ELEMENTS, CONCERNED BY THE FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES ARE NOW SEEKING TO TURN THIS ISSUE AGAINST US WHENEVER POSSIBLE. THEIR POINT OF ATTACK IS THAT THE U.S. ITSELF VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS. TO SOME EXTENT THESE SPURIOUS CHARGES HAVE SOME EFFECT.

3. SOME COUNTRIES SUCH AS GRENADA AND ANTIGUA THEMSELVES ARE ACCUSED BY POLITICAL OPPONENTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. THESE
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GOVERNMENTS, THEREFORE, TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT WARY OF THE ISSUE BUT NONETHELESS ARE BASICALLY FAVORABLE. THE CHARGES MOSTLY RELATE TO RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OPPOSITION BY THE OFFICIAL SECTOR.

4. GRENADA AND BARBADOS, THE TWO INDEPENDENT STATES OF

THIS REGION BOTH RECENTLY ADHERED TO THE INTER-AMERICAN
HUMAN RIGHTS CONVENTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780750/aaaabpnq.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 45e5f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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